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**COMMENT OF THE DAY**  
**Textile Crisis**

YESTERDAY'S debate in the House of Commons brought into sharp focus the serious crisis now threatening Britain's textile industry. Little was said to relieve the gloom. The hard facts are that Lancashire is faced with ever-increasing competition, much of it from countries which previously looked to Britain for their textiles; that export markets are being closed; and that even home market demands have fallen away. Australia's decision to cut imports naturally aggravates a problem already made grave by other circumstances. It only requires South Africa, New Zealand and other parts of the Commonwealth to follow the Australian lead for Lancashire and other industrial areas to be placed in an intolerable position. The crisis comes at the worst possible time, with Britain already struggling to recover her balance of trade and achieve international solvency. Development of export trade is the key to the solution; without it austerity loses half its value.

THE President of the Board of Trade's first proposal for relieving the situation is to stop importing a certain line of grey cloth and encourage the Lancashire mills to produce the same article for home consumption. The measure can only be regarded as short-term and alleviative. In the same category goes the Opposition's suggestion that Government expedite military contracts for British textile manufacturers. These are aids which possess value, but their effects can only be transitory. More far-reaching in perspective is the decision of the Cotton Board to invite experts from the United States, India and Japan to join Britain in discussions concerning the problems of the textile trade in general. Cut-throat competition will, in the long run, benefit none of the manufacturing countries. The whole question of meeting the world's demands for textiles requires to be rationalized. It is conceivable that extremely helpful results could emerge from the conference which the Cotton Board proposes.

YET another requirement is apparent—more frequent consultations between the Commonwealth nations. The degree of self-sufficiency within the Commonwealth has still to be explored and exploited. The future of British textile industries is not the only interest at stake. The needs of the day call for development in many directions. One commentator has observed that the aim should be to expand, not contract; to develop, not reduce. And it is suggested that this might very well be accomplished if the Commonwealth and the Empire were to meet in conference to weigh up assets and consider how to make full use of them. Development of Commonwealth resources for mutual exchange may prove to be the most beneficial long-term solution to the manifold economic, industrial and financial problems now besetting Britain and her sister States.

**Cheese Ration Cut**  
London, Mar. 26.  
Britons were told on Wednesday night that their cheese ration will go down from one and a half ounces a week to one ounce from April 20. —Reuter.

**Govt. Announces Action For Relieving Textile Crisis**

**2 US Bombers Crash**

Albuquerque, Mar. 26.  
A B-47 jet bomber assigned to an atomic test group crashed and burned at Kirtland air base here today and an official spokesman said the accident probably killed the crew of three. The bomber was badly burned.  
The four-engined plane, rated by the air force as medium bomber, was assigned to the 4925th atomic test group of the Special Weapons Command. It was on a routine training flight.  
Eyewitnesses said the bomber was making its take-off when the crash occurred.—United Press.  
Tucson, Mar. 26.  
The Davis Monthan air force base public information office said that a B-29 bomber crashed and burned on a desert near the base today when all men aboard were believed to be dead.  
The plane, on a routine mission, was from the 43rd air refuelling squadron.—United Press.

**TUNISIAN MINISTERS MISSING IN PARIS**  
**Martial Law Declared In French Protectorate**

Paris, Mar. 26.  
Two Tunisian Ministers, ordered to put the Protectorate's case for independence before the United Nations Security Council in New York, were missing from their hotel today.

A secretary, who asked that his name be withheld, said the Tunisian Minister of Justice, Mohammed Asailh ben Youssef, and the Minister for Social Affairs, Mohammed Badra, left the hotel earlier than usual this morning without leaving instructions.

The Ministers had not returned by 3 p.m. GMT, although they normally came back 12.30 p.m. GMT.  
"There are two possibilities," said the secretary. "They have been arrested or they may have taken the necessary precautions."  
This might mean the Ministers have gone into hiding, after the arrest by the French authorities in Tunis of Premier Mohammed Chenik and three other top-ranking Ministers.

It would be hard for ben Youssef and Badra to leave the country except to return to Tunisia, the secretary pointed out.  
**NO PASSPORTS**  
Last month the French government cancelled their diplomatic passports after they had applied to the United States Embassy for US visas.

Meanwhile, Mohammed Masoudi, president in Paris of the Tunisian Neo-Destour Party, issued a statement in which he said France's drastic measures must have been taken on the initiative of the Resident-General and do not represent a "deliberate policy."  
"As the French government has not yet stated the final word," said the statement, "we will maintain our present stand. All one can say is that the present state of affairs in Tunisia risks a certain huge gap between Tunisia and France."

Masoudi said he was sure his statement faithfully represented the thoughts of Youssef and Badra, "of whom we hear no news since this morning." —United Press.  
**MILITARY REGIME**  
Tunis, Mar. 26.  
An iron-clad military regime descended on the French protectorate of Tunisia today as the Army Commander, General Pierre Carbay, proclaimed martial law throughout the territory and ordered the death penalty for breaches of security.

A news blackout, which was clamped down after the arrest of the Tunisian Prime Minister, Mohammed Chenik, and three of his Ministers last night, was lifted late today.  
Tunis was calm and no disturbances have been reported from other parts of the country. The dusk to dawn curfew still remained in force.

(According to informed quarters in Paris, 500 people, ranging from nationalists to Communists, have been detained by the authorities in Tunisia.)  
M. de Peyster, Principal Secretary of the French Resident-General, Count Jean de Hauteclocque today called on Prince Chadoley Bey, son of the 70-year-old Bey of Tunis, Sidi Mohammed Al-Amin, to inquire into the possibilities of forming a new Government to succeed that of M. Chenik.  
Prince Chadoley, who at first thought he was going to be arrested, said he preferred to wait for the reaction of the French Government to the latest events in the protectorate.  
"Perhaps Antoine Pinay (the French Premier) does not altogether agree on the expediency of the measures which have greatly surprised my father," he declared.

**IMPORTATION OF UNPROCESSED CLOTH TO BE STOPPED**

London, Mar. 26.  
Britain is to stop importing grey (unprocessed) cloth for the time being as a means to help the Lancashire cotton industry, Mr Peter Thorneycroft, President of the Board of Trade, announced in the House of Commons tonight.

India was the biggest exporter of this cloth to Britain last year with 106,408,000 square yards. Next came Japan with 84,982,000 square yards followed by Germany with 32,706,000.

Britain also imported smaller amounts from other Commonwealth countries besides India and also from Spain, Italy and Belgium.

Mr Thorneycroft made the announcement in a debate called by the Labour Opposition to discuss the growing unemployment in the textile industry — one member said that there were 70,000 cotton workers wholly or partially unemployed.

No vote was expected, but Members of Parliament from the textile areas were so disturbed by the position that they were prepared to keep the House debating the industry all night to draw attention to the facts.

Britain has been importing grey cloth because Lancashire has not produced enough to satisfy the demand.

Saying he understood that considerable stocks of the cloth were now available, Mr Thorneycroft declared that for the present he did not intend to issue any further licences.

Opening the debate in the House of Commons tonight, Mr Anthony Greenwood, turning to the long-term causes of the British recession in the textile industry, said that the principal cause was the development of the textile industries in other countries.

Every textile producing country in Europe, except Austria and Czechoslovakia, had increased its total production of all kinds of textiles more than Britain had done.

It was the same outside Europe.

**JAPAN'S SUCCESS**  
In spite of the temporary recession at home, Japan had had a fair amount of success in re-entering the African market, Mr Greenwood said.

"In Pakistan she has taken our place as the chief producer of textile goods," he continued. "We should not forget the Yoda — Dulles agreement which was not only a grave diplomatic rebuff to this country but which may in the long run have a disastrous effect on this country's economic structure."

"India has expanded her textile output enormously," Mr Greenwood added. "New mills are being set up. She is establishing her own textile machine industry with the advice of British firms and I don't think any one of us would begrudge anything that India can do to solve the tremendous problem of poverty which she has to face. India is making progress and the amount of raw cotton India is going to consume this year is twice as much as the average consumption of raw cotton in this country over the last three years."

"That is an indication of the enormous extent to which India has entered into the cotton markets of the world."  
Mr Greenwood hoped that the Government would be able to tell the House what were the prospects of selling textiles behind the Iron Curtain.

He said that there was another considerable outlet for British exports—the backward areas which would benefit from an "enthusiastic application" of the Colombo Plan.

**A SERIOUS CRISIS**  
Meanwhile, Britain's Cotton Board said in Manchester today that it had invited United States, Indian and Japanese cotton experts to Britain to discuss cotton textile trade problems.

The Board, a Government-appointed co-ordinating group for the cotton industry, said that it had asked the foreign textile industries to send delegates to a conference in September.

Some interested European countries may also be represented.  
The British cotton industry is facing a serious crisis. Cancellation of Australian orders, Japanese competition and a fall in home buying have added to its troubles.

**Stalin Was Absent**

Moscow, Mar. 26.  
Marshal Stalin was not present with other members of the Politbureau when the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federated Republic opened its session in the Grand Kremlin Palace tonight.

Among the Politbureau members present were the Deputy Premiers Vyacheslav Molotov, Lavrenty Beria and G. M. Malenkov.

Stalin, who was 72 years old last December, attended the last session of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federated Republic in April, 1951.

His last public appearance was at a meeting of Soviet leaders in Moscow's Bolshoi Theatre in January 21 last to mark the 28th anniversary of Lenin's death.

The Russian Federated Republic is the biggest of the 16 Republics of the USSR.—Reuter.

**Navy Protection For Shipping**

London, Mar. 26.  
It was announced today that piracy in the Far East had increased and the British Navy was doing everything possible to protect shipping.

Commander S. H. P. Noble told a questioner in the Commons today that British ships had been instructed to protect merchant shipping.

"There has been some increase in piracy," he said, "but although the war in Korea has strained our naval forces to the limit, we are doing everything we can to protect shipping." —United Press.

**Tragic, But Heroic Death**

**Boy Pinned Beneath Blazing Tractor**

Dustin, Oklahoma, Mar. 26.  
A 14-year-old farm boy who kissed his younger brother goodbye, ordered him to "get away from me" and then "burned to death without a whimper" beneath a blazing tractor will get a hero's funeral today.

The story of how Richard Dale Foreman died in an accident on the family's farm near here was told by his heartbroken 11-year-old brother, Glenn.

The two brothers were riding on a tractor on Monday when the front wheel of the vehicle swerved. The tractor overturned and burst into flames. Glenn said his brother was pinned under the tractor.

**BOY'S WARNING**  
Glenn said that he was beating on the tractor with his coat trying to put out the fire when Richard made him stop.

"He said to kiss him goodbye and I did," Glenn said. "Then he told me to get away. He kept telling me to get away from him and that the gasoline tank would blow up."

A motorist stopped at the accident scene and frantically tried to lift the burning tractor from Richard's legs with a car jack. Neighbours finally prised it off with fence posts.

But Richard, a sixth grade student and the son of Mr and Mrs Richard Foreman, was already dead.

"He died without a whimper," Glenn said.

Funeral services will be held at Dustin's Methodist Church.—United Press.

**Survivors Of Collision Rescued**

Bombay, Mar. 26.  
Thirteen Persians who survived the sinking of their sailing craft off Karachi last Saturday after a collision with the 7,176-ton Italian freighter Vulcan, were brought here today by the freighter. The survivors, who are being looked after by the Persian Consulate here, said that they had lost cash and personal belongings.—Reuter.

**STAIRS COLLAPSE**

Tokyo, Mar. 26.  
Forty-four workers suffered injuries when a staircase collapsed in a dormitory of a Nakagoshi spinning factory in Toyama Prefecture yesterday afternoon.

The wooden staircase, it was reported, gave way under the weight of some 300 workers who had rushed downstairs immediately following a union meeting to vote a 100 per cent increase.—Reuter.

**DELIGHTS ITALIANS**

Trieste, Mar. 26.  
Italy won a major victory here today when the Allied military government announced that Italian electoral law would be used for the May 25 elections in the Austro-American Zone of Trieste.  
The announcement was made by British General Sir John Winterbottom, Allied Military Governor, who last year described the Italian electoral system as "not representative".

Italian political parties were jubilant over the apparent switch in military government policy. They interpreted it as the result of the strong protests which the Italian government sent to the Anglo-American powers last week following nationalist riots and demonstrations here.—United Press.

**Election Primaries**

**Eisenhower Wins New Support**

Washington, Mar. 26.  
General Dwight Eisenhower today continued to dominate the campaigns for the Wisconsin and Nebraska primary elections next week — though he is not an official candidate in either.

The remarkable surge of popular sentiment for the General among Republican voters—as already evidenced by his run-away success in the Minnesota and New Hampshire primaries—has created unprecedented confusion in the ranks of his opponents.

And today the General was given a good chance of a psychological victory in the New Jersey primary on April 15, over the rival Republican candidate, Senator Robert Taft.

The veteran presidential campaigner and isolationist sought to remove his name from the ballot in this election in order to avoid what many think will be a sure defeat.

But the New Jersey Supreme Court today ruled that this was now impossible.

Governor Harold Stassen said last night that half his 38 delegate candidates in the Wisconsin primary on Tuesday would support General Eisenhower on the first ballot at the Chicago nominating convention on July 7.

Observers saw the unprecedented move as an open bid for votes from General Eisenhower "fans". It implied an acknowledgment of almost certain defeat for Mr Stassen's candidacy in the Republican nominating convention.—Reuter.

**Burmese Attack Chinese Troops**

Rangoon, Mar. 26.  
Major military operations have been launched against Chinese Nationalist troops in Burma's eastern frontier, the Prime Minister, U Nu, said at a Press conference here today.

He said that the operations were the fourth against the Chinese since their entry into Burma in January, 1950.

The Nationalists were led by General Li MI and Lieut-General Yin Cheng, he added.

The Prime Minister, on grounds of security, would not make a detailed statement on the operations at present in progress but said that he would make a statement later.

The Burmese army had been issued startling instructions to fight the Nationalists wherever they were contacted, he added.

(A Government statement recently said that the strength of the infiltrating Nationalists at no time exceeded 6,000, though unofficial estimates had put the figure at over 10,000.)

The Prime Minister said that the Nationalists were not such a mighty menace as to be beyond the capacity of Burma's troops.

When they first entered Burma early in 1950 the Government could not mount major operations against them because they were pre-occupied with internal rebellions, he said. But since the end of the year continued operations had been going on which had made the Nationalists a roving band instead of a localised army.

Each time Government troops operated against them they crept to Thailand, Indo-China and Yunnan but reappeared when Government vigilance was relaxed, he said.

The Prime Minister said that the Burmese Air Force on a previous occasion had bombed the Nationalist landing ground at Mong Hsat, 50 miles south of Kengtung on the Burma-Thailand border where they had set up their headquarters. But reconnaissance showed that they rebuilt it again within three days.

The Prime Minister refused statements that it was an airship and said that it was a mere landing ground.—Reuter.

**University Blaze**

Tokyo, Mar. 26.  
Eight persons were injured in a fire which razed a dormitory and three other buildings at Chiba University in Imba County, Chiba Prefecture, today.

The police attributed the cause of the fire to cooking carelessness and the damage was estimated at seven million yen.—Reuter.

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## Spanish Bases Negotiations

Washington, Mar. 26. The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, said today that negotiations with the Spanish Government for the use of air and naval bases would begin as soon as the Franco Government was ready.

The new United States Ambassador to Madrid, Mr. Lincoln MacVeagh, would be available to begin discussions after he had presented his credentials, Mr. Acheson told his weekly press conference.

The presentation of credentials takes place tomorrow, Reuter.

## European 'Green Pool' Conference

Paris, Mar. 26. The 16-nation conference meeting here to seek ways of setting up an agricultural pool, decided today that an "ad hoc" conference on the "green pool" proposal will be called in Paris between June and September.

Tomorrow, the conference will discuss the agenda for the later meeting and will probably set up working committees to consider the agenda.

Speakers today, as yesterday, approved the idea in principle, though some reservations were expressed.

The Swedish Ambassador in Paris, Mr. K. I. Westman, said that his country approved the French suggestions on the functions of the proposed organization. He stressed the need for increasing agricultural production and said that farm workers should be as well paid as industrial workers.

The Danish Agriculture Minister, Mr. Seenderup, said that his country, as a large exporter of farm produce, was especially interested in the question of outlets.

For him European integration implied the complete freeing of exchanges. The first step should be the suppression of trade barriers within Europe.

**NATURAL PLACE**

The Secretary of State in the West German Agriculture Ministry, Herr Sonnemann, said that an agricultural union has a natural place in an industrial Europe.

The Swiss Minister in Paris, M. Antoine de Salis, said that Switzerland did not favour the idea of a supra-national authority.

For Italy, the Agriculture Minister, Signor Fanfani, announced his complete support of the French plan. He said that European countries must rationalise their farm production in order to reduce costs, create common reserves and reduce waste caused by obstacles placed in the way of the free circulation of goods.

Signor Fanfani said that the European agricultural community should sponsor migratory movements to make the best use of manpower.

The Belgian Agriculture Minister, M. Heger, said that the practical way to approach the problem was to produce by product as had been done for coal and steel in the Schuman Plan.

The conference then passed to a discussion of the proposed European agricultural conference.

Reuter.

## FESTIVAL DOME DISMANTLING

London, Mar. 26. The dismantling of the 1951 Festival Exhibition Dome of Discovery began today at London's South Bank site. It will take six months to dismantle the Dome and 10 other South Bank structures.

The Dome can still be bought if anyone wants to reconstruct it elsewhere, a spokesman of the dismantling firm said today. Otherwise it will yield 600 tons of metals. Its scrap value is estimated at £17,000. The future of the Skylon will be decided this week, Reuter.

## Alpine Troops Manoeuvre On Skis



Issued with white outfits in an effort to make them almost invisible, these Italian Alpine troops move through mountain snow on skis during manoeuvres. High foreign military leaders watched the exercises.—Express Service.

## Havenga Warns South Africans Of Greater Sacrifices Ahead

Capetown, Mar. 26. The Finance Minister, Mr. Nicholas Havenga, told the South African Parliament today that he had authorised the Governor of the Reserve Bank to sell immediately to the Bank of England £10,000,000 in gold over and above the normal quarterly gold sales to the United Kingdom in terms of existing arrangements.

Introducing his budget in the House of Assembly, Mr. Havenga noted that there were hopeful signs that the tide of inflation is turning in the United Kingdom, and he hoped that the crest of the inflation wave had been reached in the Commonwealth.

A worldwide upward adjustment in the price of gold, he thought, would be the surest means of speeding South Africa on its way to freedom from restrictions. He felt convinced that this was bound to come.

While South Africa was not faced with a financial crisis, Mr. Havenga warned his countrymen that they would now have to find many millions for defence and would have to accept greater sacrifices in future if they wished to preserve the purchasing power of her Pound.

"Apart from increased taxation we will have to save more money by consuming less, increasing our production, and slow down the rate of expenditure in development," Mr. Havenga said.

The South African Treasury had decided that the amount of foreign exchange available for imports during 1952 should be limited to £400,000,000—sufficient to meet the country's reasonable import requirements.

**DOLLAR IMPORTS**

South Africa's reduction of total imports by up to £70,000,000 was likely to be largely at the expense of soft currency countries unless they could quote competitive prices.

The issue of general permits in relation to restricted permits would be as liberal as last year but the Department of Commerce and Industries would not hesitate to authorise increased imports from the dollar area if exporters in soft currency countries should attempt to exploit the position.

He expected the dollar area's percentage of its share in South Africa's total imports to increase during 1952.

"Why we expect the United Kingdom will still be able to acquire a satisfactory share in our gold output under these conditions is that our gold output plus our hard currency receipts will cover a considerably greater percentage of our total imports at the reduced level envisaged for 1952."

Mr. Havenga said that the tremendous development in South Africa since the war had increased the importation of machinery and other capital goods on an unprecedented scale.

**PRICE OF GOLD**

These investments were now beginning to bear fruit. Three new gold mines had begun to produce, six would commence

production in 1953 and afterwards other developing mines would come into production at the rate of two or three a year.

Uranium exports were expected to add a substantial amount to foreign exchange income from next year onwards and exports of other minerals were also increasing.

Mr. Havenga felt convinced that a worldwide upward readjustment in the price of gold was bound to come.

Developments over the past six months had encouraged his belief that governments would not be able in the long run to peg the price of gold at a level which was entirely out of line with the value the public attached to gold.

The International Monetary Fund had relaxed its gold policy in September, 1951. It was estimated that nine and a half million ounces of gold were sold in free markets last year and it was expected that this would now increase to over 13,000,000 ounces or 1,000,000,000 ounces more than South Africa's total output.

**HEAVY DRAIN**

That such a large volume of gold was absorbed at more than \$3 above the official American price was striking evidence of the public's faith in gold and their distrust of paper currencies.

Mr. Havenga disclosed that the drain on the Sterling Area's gold reserves would probably continue to be heavy during the first half of this year and would only be halted during the second half.

Mr. Havenga announced that gold-mining taxation would remain unchanged.

The normal tax rate on diamond mines was increased by one shilling from eight shillings to nine shillings per pound of taxable income. The yield in a financial year was estimated at £270,000.

Mr. Havenga said, "Taxation on gold-mining was increased last year and in view of increased working costs and the need to attract the large volume of capital that is still necessary to bring the new mines to the producing stage, I think we should explore other avenues before resorting to a further increase of gold-mining taxation."

Mr. Havenga's budget, which provided for a surplus of approximately £1,400,000, included increased excise duties on beer, tobacco, mineral waters and sweets manufactured in South Africa for sale, and customs duties on films.

The increase on films would be four pence a foot but would not apply to scientific or educational films and certain other types of film which at present are admitted free of duty.—Reuter.

## Canada To Make Air Survey Of Pakistan

Ottawa, Mar. 26. Mr. Jean Lesage, Parliamentary Assistant to the Canadian Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Lester Pearson, told the House of Commons here last night that Canada has tentatively agreed to make an aerial photographic survey of the resources of Pakistan.

Mr. Lesage said that the Government had been criticised for not making a large enough contribution to the Colombo Plan but the fact was that Canada had not been able to spend what she had agreed to contribute.

Of the \$25,000,000 voted for general economic assistance to India and Pakistan in the first year of the Plan, Mr. Lesage added, only \$10,000,000 was actually spent; that was on a shipment of wheat to India.

The \$400,000 voted for technical assistance had not all been used either, but equivalent sums were being sought from Parliament in both fields for the new fiscal year starting on April 1.

Tentative agreement had been reached on a photographic and geological survey of Pakistan to be undertaken by Canada, Mr. Lesage said.

Very little was known of the geological and geophysical make-up of Pakistan and a survey of this kind would provide basic data of immediate and long-term value to Pakistan in carrying out its economic development.—Reuter.

## Reds Allege Abduction Of Children

Vienna, Mar. 26. The Soviet occupation authorities today protested to the United States High Commission against the alleged abduction from Austria of a group of Soviet children.

The Soviet Deputy High Commissioner, General Wladimir, in a note to the US Deputy High Commissioner, Walter Dowling, requested the return of the children to the Soviet authorities for repatriation to the USSR.

Competent circles here said that the children concerned were not Soviet citizens but mostly orphans from East European countries which have become part of the USSR since the last war.—France-Press.

## Belgium And Japan

Brussels, Mar. 26. The Belgian Chamber of Deputies today approved the first reading of legislation to ratify the peace treaty with Japan.—Reuter.

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## Peron And Eva Handing Out Souvenir Photos



Argentine President Peron and his wife Eva handing out souvenirs in the form of signed photographs of themselves after performing the opening ceremony of a new car-racing track at Buenos Aires. — Express Service.

## Grim Finds On Okinawa

Tokyo, Mar. 26. The remains of two Japanese generals who committed suicide in the final battle on Okinawa in the last war have been discovered by an Okinawan Buddhist priest, the Mainichi reported today from Naha, the Okinawan capital.

The message said that the decapitated heads of Lieut. General Mitsune Ushijima, Commander of the Japanese 32nd Army, and Lieut. General Isamu Chu, Chief of Staff, general was found.

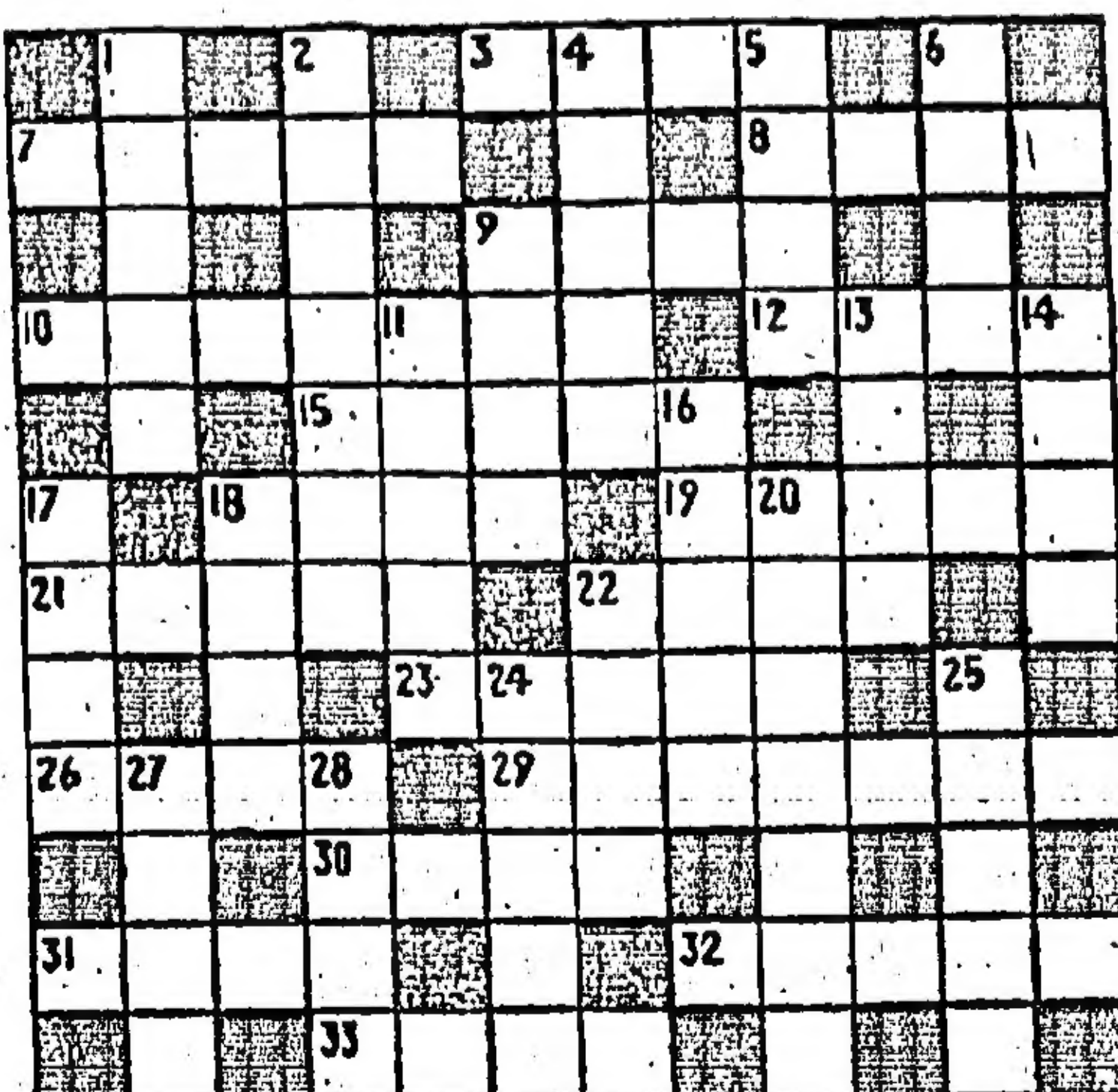
According to the Japanese tradition of the kara kiri, a friend or a specially assigned person stands with a drawn sword at the back of the individual intending to commit suicide and decapitates him soon after he plunges his sword into his stomach. — United Press.

## Congestion In Kenya Port

Nairobi, Mar. 26. To help overcome the heavy congestion at Mombasa, Kenya's main port, shipping lines serving East Africa have agreed to cut the monthly flow of cargo to the port from 80,000 tons to 50,000 tons.

Shipping representatives estimated that after three months the flow could be stepped up to 70,000 tons. The delays to shipping were estimated to have cost shipping lines £1,700,000 in 1951. — Reuters.

## A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS  
3 Self-satisfied (4).  
7 Quantity of paper (5).  
8 Defeat (4).  
9 Besides (4).  
10 Waterfall (7).  
12 Envelop (4).  
15 Senior (5).  
18 In lazy fashion (4).  
19 Rude (5).  
21 Cowboy show (5).  
22 Full extent (4).  
23 Drinker (5).  
26 Pleased (4).  
29 Liberate (7).  
30 In the centre of (4).  
31 Bill-of-fare (4).  
32 Pigment (5).  
33 Swelling (4).

DOWN  
1 Rustic (5).  
2 Go before (7).  
4 Confused struggle (5).  
5 Expanded (4).  
6 Animal (4).  
9 Whirlpool (4).  
11 Perceives (5).  
13 Destruction (4).  
14 Shove (4).  
16 Drive back (5).  
17 Boat (4).  
18 Thought (4).  
20 Seaman (7).  
22 Hurried (4).  
24 General dislike (5).  
25 Send (5).  
27 Dress (4).  
28 Smear (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1 Carved, 7 Ball, 9 Class, 10 Tools, 11 Mount, 13 Comparison, 15 Tear, 16 Torn, 19 Interested, 22 Data, 24 Pence, 25 Again, 26 Rest, 27 Treaty, 29 Down: 2 Alarm, 3 Vista, 4 Detain, 5 Promote, 6 Vase, 8 Alone, 12 Tired, 13 Clot, 14 Pennant, 17 Ribs, 18 Decent, 20 Evade, 21 Trail, 23 Apex.

# HOPEFUL TURN SEEN IN DON'T BE VAGUE KOREAN TRUCE NEGOTIATIONS

New York, Mar. 26.

The resort to secrecy in the Panmunjom truce talks is regarded by many United Nations delegations here as a hopeful turn in the deadlocked negotiations.

The fact that pending definite agreement, the United Nations Command was ready to open to the Communists a portion of their mind but not to the election-minded politicians at home was considered as a departure from policy that might bring fruitful results.

At the same time, the United Nations Command was reported to have warned the Communists that the slightest leakage of any proffered United Nations concessions would result in repudiation of the secrecy agreement.

Reports reaching the United Nations today said that Communist newspapermen apparently had gained access to the secret talks from the Chinese and North Korean delegates. This, too, was a change from past experience.

Meanwhile, the idea of discussing problems in secret appeared to be extending to the Disarmament Commission where the Russians have pressed their own warlike charges, even before their atomic proposals, with the specific purpose of a strong armistice of the Chinese and North Korean negotiators of a Korean truce.

Industrial members of the Commission were today reported to be working to get that body to go into secret committee work as soon as possible. Unless that was done, the public feeling created by charges and counter-charges made in open session would, it was feared, blast the Commission and even affect the peace talks.

Other favourable circumstances attendant on the adoption of secrecy at Panmunjom were:

U.N. READINESS

1.—At the very moment that the decision to hold secret talks was announced, General Matthew B. Ridgway appealed to the American people to have patience and not to urge stronger measures.

2.—General Ridgway also said that the Communists really want an armistice, although he could not say when one might come.

When the truce talks began nine months ago, General Ridgway had publicly doubted the honesty of Communist desires for wanting to discuss a truce.

3.—The statement of the Democratic Party Chairman, Mr. Frank McKinney, that there was less Korean tension now than about a month ago. And his expectation that fighting might cease before the July Convention or the November elections.

Mr. McKinney stated three days later that despite President Truman's repudiation of some of his statements, he and the President continued to be of one mind.

At the United Nations, the prospects of an early armistice were discounted and rumours regarding them were described as Communist-inspired. At the same time, it was said that everything was in readiness to put on a special session of the General Assembly at United Nations headquarters the moment a truce agreement was initiated.

Such feeling of optimism as could be discerned arose from the expectation that at the secret talks the United States Administration—under double pressure from United Nations members and the exigencies of domestic politics—might make one supreme effort to bring about an honourable military settlement as could be attained.

—Reuters.

## Peaceful Poll In Eritrea

Asmara, Mar. 26. Polling closed peacefully today after orderly voting in Eritrea's first general election. The election is to choose a temporary Assembly for the approval of a draft Constitution. It implements a United Nations resolution under which the former Italian colony will become an autonomous State federated to Ethiopia.

The results will be available tomorrow. Strong police precautions were taken but proved unnecessary. A large percentage of Eritrea's electorate went to the voting booths. — Reuters.

Madrid, Mar. 26. Spain and Italy today signed an agreement to do more business with each other. Under the terms of the trade and payments pact, replacing one signed two years ago, the value of trade between the two countries is increased to US\$52,000,000 evenly divided between exports and imports. An Italy-Spanish commission will meet periodically to fix trade quotas. — United Press.

entry and the rear areas concerned and also agreed to the legend numbering of maps. "This problem is completely solved up," he added.

BECOMING CLEARER

A Communist plan for trading prisoners is becoming clearer to United Nations negotiators as the result of veiled agenda four sessions when the talks swapped ideas with much more frankness than formerly, Gen. Nukols said.

The Red proposal was given orally on March 5 and written out on March 21 for each side to hand over prisoners on the basis of lists exchanged last December 18.

It seemed a possibility today that the Red proposal, which the enemy claims is a compromise, might provide some basis for a solution to prisoner exchange.

The December 18 lists contained the names of 132,474 prisoners of the Allies and 11,559 prisoners of the Communists. Now three months later there seemed little doubt but the Allies held more than 132,000 prisoners who would require no forcing to go back to the Red side.

Gen. Nukols said Rear Admiral R. E. Libby, Allied member of the agenda four sub-delegation, has told the Reds there is every indication that the great majority of their captured personnel now in our hands desire to return.

The Reds have demanded return of all prisoners.

NOT WORKED OUT

They strenuously objected to the Allied plan of voluntary repatriation—by which each prisoner would decide whether he wished to return to the side from which he was captured. Under this plan neutral teams at neutral pool points would query each prisoner on his desire in the matter.

Gen. Nukols last night was asked whether the "no forced repatriation" would involve such questioning.

"The plan has not been worked out," he said. "No forced repatriation," he said, "means the United Nations Command does not endorse and will not employ force to compel a man to go to the other side if he does not choose to go."

"We are trying to find some way out of the current dilemma."

The item four officers decided on secret brass tacks sessions in hopes of making progress. Final results will be made public.

Was any progress made at yesterday's meeting?

"If a somewhat clearer understanding of what was meant by the March 5 and March 21 proposal was gained then there was some slight progress," Gen. Nukols said. The talks, he added, were on a broad scale and were largely couched in general terms. — Associated Press.

## American Arms For Planters

Johore Bahru, Mar. 27. American carbines and bullet-proof vests will soon be protecting Malaysia's rubber planters against Red terrorists.

R. A. Coles, chairman of the Johore Planters Association, told an annual meeting. State planters that as a result of promises made here by the British Secretary for the Colonies, Oliver Lyttelton, the carbines will be arriving in three months.

Mr. Coles said the United Planting Association of Malaysia has carried out successful tests with a type of American bullet-proof vest. Various weapons were used in the tests.

American suppliers are offering them at \$500 (US\$22) each, exclusive of freight, Mr. Coles told the planters.

Mr. Coles also said that Communist terrorists slashed 270,000 rubber trees in Johore State alone last year in a bid to affect production. Malaysia's rubber planters, who have lost 64, colleagues in the past three years in targeted areas, have been demanding better protection. — Associated Press.

## EOAC's New Route

London, Mar. 26. The British Overseas Airways Corporation will, as from next month, operate a service through Germany and India to Japan for the first time in the history of British civil aviation.

As from April 2, there will be a once weekly service from London, calling at Frankfurt and then on to Hongkong and Tokyo via Rome, Cairo, Basra, Karachi, Calcutta, Rangoon and Bangkok.

The service linking Germany with the Far East will be operated by the pressurised Argonaut airliners powered by four Rolls-Royce engines. — France-Press.

## JEWS WANT TO RETURN TO INDIA

Tel-Aviv, Mar. 26.

One hundred and fifty Indian Jews continued their sit-down strike outside the offices of the Jewish Agency here for the third day today.

They were waiting for the Agency to set the date for the plane which is to fly them back to India. They insist that they cannot settle down in Israel and the Jewish Agency has agreed to fly them back.

The squatters were joined today by a fresh batch of 35 Indian Jews. One of them, Mr. Daniel Benyamin, aged 25, began a hunger strike this morning. Others have threatened to follow his example until they are also enabled to return to India.

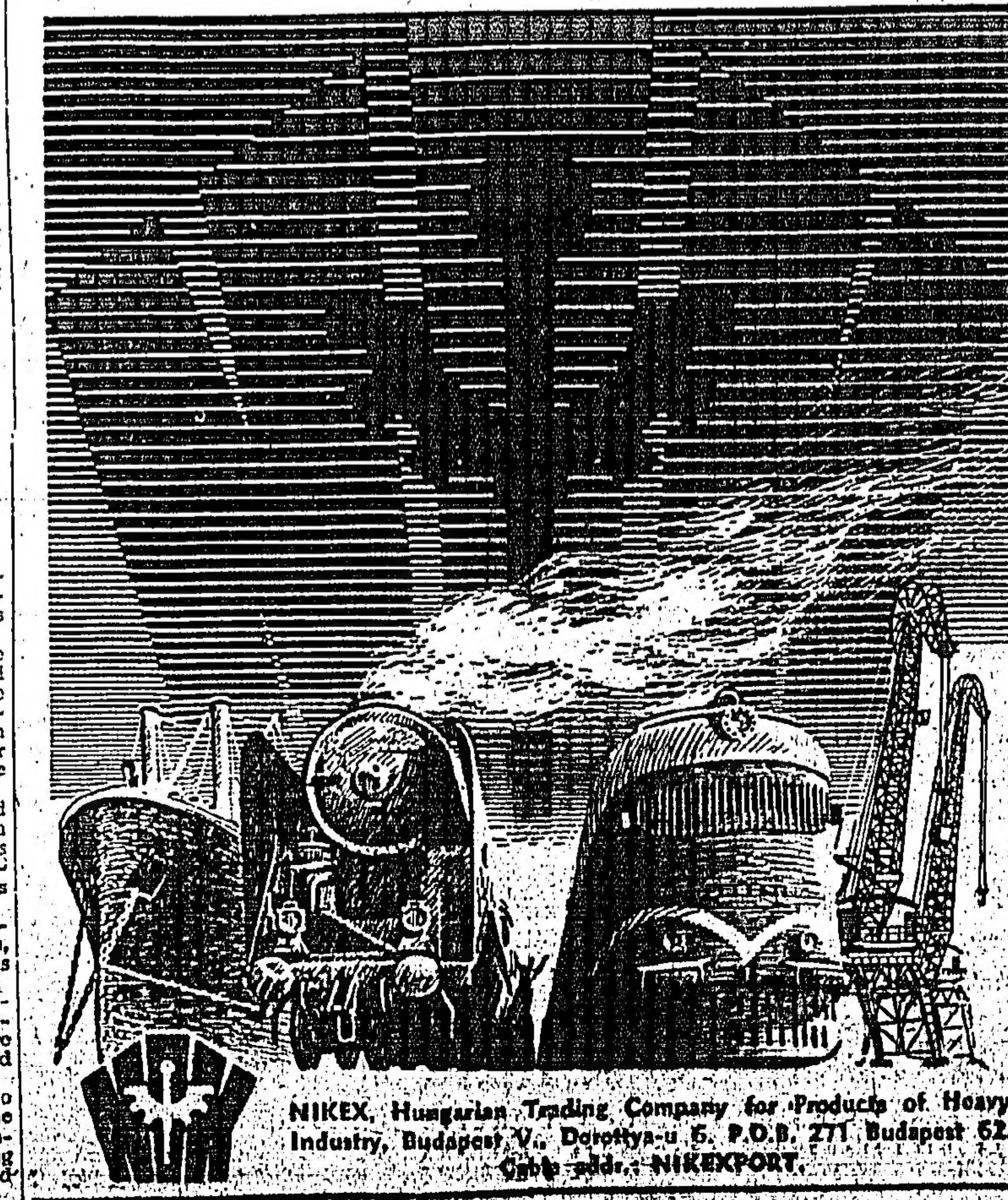
The Agency last November promised to arrange for the repatriation of the first group. The demand of the new group of 25, who claim to represent 140 Indian Jews, has still to be considered by the Executive of the Jewish Agency.

The group's spokesman, Mr. Joshua Eliah, formerly a radio engineering student in Bombay, said today that he and his friends believed they could no longer prosper in Israel. "We have decided our last hope is India," — Reuters.

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Choral Group  
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**QUEEN'S COLLEGE**  
Wednesday 2nd April  
Promptly At 8.30 p.m.  
In aid of the Hongkong Society  
for the Protection of Children.  
BOOKING HONGKONG HOTEL LOBBY 10 A.M. TO 6 P.M.







We can't catch up with it!

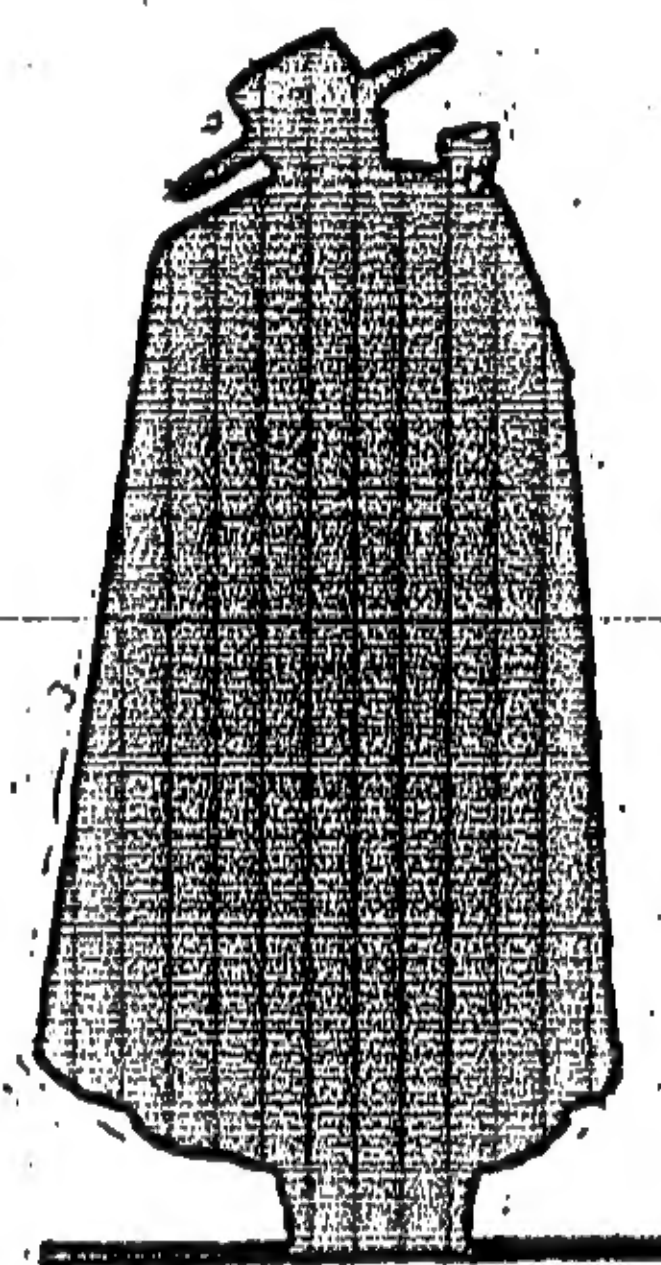
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Tendency of the British to shed pullovers at the first sign of Spring.

London Express Service

## Making The Sea Fit To Drink

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT)

WHILE people in temperate climates are usually able to take ample supplies of "cool water" for granted, other countries are not so lucky. And one of these is the fabulously oil-rich sheikhdom of Kuwait, on the sun-scorched Persian Gulf. For that tiny territory has no natural supplies of fresh water whatsoever. Until recently, all water supplies were formed in by dhows from a broad creek—the Shatt al-Arab—which flows into the Gulf at a point higher up the coast.

Then oil was found in Kuwait—and the oil men's first need was water.

Initially, they shared the supplies shipped in by the dhows. Then, as their operations expanded and this supply system proved inadequate, they organised a fresh-water tanker freight service. Soon, eight tankers—one a 10,000 tonner—were shuttling between Kuwait and the Shatt al-Arab. But before long, even the tankers were unable to keep pace with consumption. Machines, inseparable from the task of oil production, had even more copious thirst than their masters.

In 1943, the oil men decided to install six distillation units—then the largest ever designed—to provide a total of 600,000 gallons of fresh water daily from 1,200,000 gallons of brackish salt water drawn from the Persian Gulf. Some of this fresh water was used at once. Some was fed into reservoirs against the "hot weather season" beginning in April—when the aim is to have a stored reserve of at least 20,000,000 gallons in hand.

However, that is by no means the end of the story. Thanks to Kuwait's royalty revenues from oil production, the Sheikh has initiated a project for installing a State salt water distillation plant that will provide typically one million gallons of fresh water daily, and perhaps later, up to five million gallons a day.

The experience of the oil technicians in installing and operating their own plant has been placed fully at the Sheikh's disposal. Before long, everyone in Kuwait may enjoy a boon which—hitherto—has been an undreamed-of luxury: cool, clear water in abundance on tap.

## DON IDDON'S DIARY

New York, Tuesday. AS I hadn't seen the President for several weeks I went along to the Waldorf-Astoria to get a good look at him the other day.

Harry Truman looked fine and dandy, bronzed and bouncing. The President does not often come to New York, as security measures are difficult. We have more than our share of what the police call "nuts and hoodlums."

All of 57th Street and most of Park Avenue were stripped of traffic and were pretty bare of people as Mr Truman came to town, but there were no incidents.

I got a good place in the Waldorf ballroom to watch the

President in action. He had come all the way from Key West, Florida, to give a little talk to 3,500 high school and junior college editors—youths and girls ranging from 14 to 20.

Mr Truman, spruce and smart in blue suit, white shirt, and dark blue tie, was in engaging form. He had no script and apparently no notes. He just talked from his heart about Russia, newspaper publishers and editors, about William Jennings Bryan, and youth and the future.

He captured the children, and most of the adults. If he was at all worried about his defeat by Senator Estes Kefauver in the New Hampshire primary election he did not show it. He talked better than Kefauver, and Senator Robert Taft combined, and his folksy personality came across like Will Rogers.

When he left, grinning and self-confident, the man next to me said: "It will take plenty to get Harry Truman down." It will.

The President has not yet revealed whether he will run again, but the inside information, said to come from someone whose sister once knew a fellow whose brother took out the White House switchboard operator, is that President Truman will run if Senator Taft is the Republican candidate.

Harry Truman only admits that Taft is his favourite opposition, and he wants to beat him because everything that Taft stands for is against everything that Mr Truman has done and tried to do.

The same mysterious informant, or a relative who knows someone who delivers the papers at the White House, says that Mr Truman has not much heart for running against General Eisenhower, should the general get the nomination, because he likes Ike and Ike's policies are very similar to Truman's.

### Not too long

THEN there is the indisputable fact that Eisenhower might be a very hard man to beat.

If it is not certain what Harry Truman will do, it is crystal clear what General Eisenhower is doing. He is running for all he is worth.

But how long can Eisenhower go on being a general, serving the President and NATO in Europe and at the same time be a candidate running against Truman or Truman's nominee?

Not too long. The call to come back home is strong, and may be irresistible.

I hope the campaign will not become too undignified. It is all right for Senator Kefauver to wear his coonskin cap and go around looking like Daniel Boone, but one can tire of eccentric headpieces. Senator Taft has been posing holding a cowboy stetson as if it were a smoking bomb, and Harold Stassen has been rigged out in Indian feathers, but don't let us get too cute or corny.

The New Hampshire voters were serious and sober, and the other constituents seem in the same mood.

Of course, the last week has been income-tax payment week, which is enough to make anyone feel grim.

On average a third of the national income goes in taxes, direct and hidden. On the theory that what you don't see doesn't hurt you, the hidden taxes have really been slapped right across the board—on bread and milk, on beef and coal, on motor-cars and radio sets, on cigarettes and liquor—on just about everything.

### The squeeze hurts

THE American citizen is being put through the wringer, and is beginning to howl. Taxes have increased fivefold since 1938, sevenfold since 1929, and are 20 times those of 1916. Why? Oh why? asks the wage-earner, digging into his pocket, or even dipping into debt, to pay the collector.

The answers are involved and conflicting. One politician, Senator Tom Connally, of Texas, is saying the most.

"Old Town" Connally is Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He has an imposing leonine mane of

hair and a trigger temper. He is up for re-election this year and he has his ear to the ground. Every time a microphone is within a mile of him, Senator Connally bellows: "We can't go on giving and giving to Europe for ever and ever without end."

This is deeply embarrassing to the Truman Administration, because Connally is supposed to be lined up on the Administration's side, but no one dare clamp down on Connally, who has the gift of landing on the front page two or three times a week.

### Our Budget praised

REPORTS on the British Budget help a little. Whenever anyone gets too out of hand the finger is pointed across the Atlantic at the shaven, shorn, gouged, and clipped, British taxpayer, and the question asked: "How would you like to get the complete tax treatment on the British model?"

Actually our Budget has impressed the Americans as sound, sane, and restoring incentive. It has won more praise than all the share-the-poverty Socialist schemes.

New York is as much preoccupied with crime as with money at the moment. When I got back from New Hampshire I was astonished to see trucks plastered with posters: "Help to Find the Killer! Help Find Arnold Schuster's Killer! Turn Over Information to Police Department, Priest, Minister, or Rabbi."

The newspaper New York Journal-American shouted: "38,000-dollar [about £13,500] Reward," and the editorial writers talked about a reign of terror.

Every detective and patrolman is on the look-out for the assassin of Schuster, whose tip to the police resulted in Willie Sutton, the bank-robbler known as "The Actor," being arrested.

New York is accustomed to crime, but this cold-blooded killing has raised its hackles. There has been a barrage of threatening letters—and even the boss sent to Judge Samuel Leibowitz—and several people are being given 24-hour guards.

The gangster is on the loose again in New York, and "madmen and lunatics" do not sound very convincing.

### Broadway speed-up

ON BROADWAY business is looking up. Four new plays open this week—"Flight into Egypt," "One Bright Day," "The Long Watch" and "Three Wishes for Jamie."

This is a great rush after the laggard past weeks.

The new British film "Marry Me" with Derek Bond, Guy Middleton, and Nora Swinburne, got poor reviews. It's a long time since one of our pictures received thumbs-down from the critics.

Gregory Peck's next film will be made in England, and he is moving his wife and three children over there.

Sarah Churchill's reading of Ellen Terry's letter to Bernard Shaw shows that she has inherited her father's talent for speaking.

At last a good newspaper film has opened—"Deadline U.S.A." starring Humphrey Bogart. This one has some relation to newspaper reality and lacks that "Stop the presses, clear the front page" nonsense Hollywood usually delights in.

## Part 4 Of An Astonishing Interview

# WHY DID LITVINOV TAKE THE RISK?

By RICHARD C. HOTTELET

WHY did Maxim Litvinov take his life in his hands to warn the West against Stalin's policy that Russia couldn't be trusted?

He knew the risk he was running. If the facts were published while he lived they would be his death warrant. If they were made known after he died, he would be cursed in Soviet history as the renegade who betrayed the Kremlin's plans.

My only conclusion is this: Maxim Litvinov, old bolshevik, Ambassador, Foreign Minister and history-maker for the Soviet Union, finally turned his back on his party and on the loyalties of a lifetime.

Only Litvinov could have given a full explanation for the strange interview he gave me in 1940, which I have recounted in previous chapters. But his life and the interview itself suggest a personal tragedy matching the scale of his decision.

The first solid clue came two months later. On August 23, 1940, Pravda printed a notice in small type on its back page to the effect that Maxim Litvinov had been relieved of his post as Deputy Foreign Minister, that Feodor Gusev and Jakob Malik had been promoted to that rank.

The resigned certainty in his manner when he assured me that he would have no influence on foreign policy, and the vehemence with which he described himself as a private citizen when I left, reasonably suggest that he knew his career had just come to an end.

But these external details leave much unexplained. I was a complete stranger to Litvinov. We had no mutual friends.

To be sure, I was correspondent of the Columbia Broadcasting System. But for all he knew I might have been working for the secret police, or been a fellow traveller who would hear his story coldly and spread it with astonishment, barring these hazards, I could have been in the consequences for him would have been no less fatal. Even more to the point, Litvinov never lowered his voice during our conversation.

He must have been at least as mindful as I that Moscow waits have ears. As it turned out he was quite safe, but the risk he took was enormous. He accepted it calmly and with dignity.

This was probably Litvinov's last chance to be heard. My appointment with him had been made before his dismissal as Deputy Foreign Minister. He was not likely ever again to have a long conversation with a Westerner, and he was determined to be heard.

Several times during that hour of pain to go. But if I misjudged this unique opportunity in my "desire not to overdo a good thing, Litvinov held me back by going on with what he had to say.

Decisive, for his action, must have been his personal sense of tragedy. Litvinov had never been a milk and water idealist. He was a rough and tumble operator who preferred results to pretty formulas. But all his life he had in his fashion, served one broad ideal. He had believed in the revolution as the painful birth of a better life.

After 1935, as People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs, Maxim Litvinov left his imprint on history. He won diplomatic recognition of the United States in 1933 and admission to the League of Nations in 1934. He signed non-aggression pacts with every one of Russia's European and Asiatic neighbours except Japan, and paved the way for mutual assistance treaties with France and Czechoslovakia.

He had for years been demanding world disarmament.

Neither Litvinov nor his government had sprouted halos in those years. Their foreign policy was hard necessity. The Comintern had been unable to provoke world revolution. Internally the regime staggered from one crisis to another.

The struggle for succession, the Five Year Plan, collectivization of agriculture, famine and the purges of the thirties kept the country in bloody convulsions.

The Soviet regime desperately needed and wanted security from outside pressure while it destroyed its opponents at home. Once the purges were over and after a short breathing spell, Stalin felt vigorous enough to dismiss Litvinov.

Molotov took over, and the policy of collective security gave way to the Stalin-Hitler alliance and the tactics of turning Russia's capitalist enemies of all complexions against each other.

When Hitler invaded Russia in June 1941, Litvinov was swiftly dismissed. In November he became Ambassador to Washington, and for the next two years he was doing business in his own specialty. While Russia rocked under Hitler's blows and the Germans drove to the Volga and the Caucasus, Litvinov pleaded the cause of the democratic coalition and urged increased assistance to Russia in the common struggle.

There is no doubt in my mind that Litvinov was sincere. But Stalin was not. The tide of war in Russia began to turn at Stalingrad in the Winter of 1942. Stalin walked cautiously to see how much Hitler had left for the summer offensive. In July the Germans' maximum effort against the Kursk salient

failed to dent the Soviet armies. Stalin once again felt vigorous. In August 1943 he recalled Litvinov.

This time a more decent obscurity awaited the old campaigner. He was kicked upstairs to become Deputy Foreign Minister under Molotov. He had nothing to do, and no voice in policy.

But he knew that as long as he was in office he was available for use again if the Soviet line should change. He had become in his own mind, as probably in Stalin's too, and in the world's, the symbol of Soviet willingness to live with the West on a reasonable, tolerant basis.

In February 1940 Stalin had announced several more Five Year Plans. They meant no conversion to peace production despite the abject misery of the Russian people. Instead, all energy was concentrated on heavy industry and war production.

The evidence suggests that on June 18 Litvinov was dismissed for good. He must have known then that he would never be called again. Stalin would have no further use for someone who genuinely believed the U.S.S.R. could live with the Western world.

Litvinov's hopes of a better life had been destroyed by the regime he had helped to create and strengthen. His spirit had been killed by the Kremlin.

He was fully prepared to risk physical death to send the world an urgent warning. He still wore no halo, had by no means been converted to Western democracy. It was in all likelihood his sheer humanity which moved him to cry out in alarm against the Soviet machine's design to dominate the globe.

I believe he had the satisfaction of knowing, before he died, that the West no longer trusted the Kremlin.

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TOMORROW: EFFECT OF LITVINOV INTERVIEW ON U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT







## A DAUGHTER FOR MAUREEN



The former champion hurdler, Maureen Gardner, recently gave birth to a daughter. Maureen and her husband, Jack Dyson, the famous AAA coach, have a son who was born three years ago.

## Interest Is Now Centred On The "A" Division Batting Title

By "GRANDSTAND"

The season's champions having been decided in several crucial tussles during the last two weeks, interest is now centred on the "A" Division batting title which is currently open to half a dozen candidates all of whom are hovering around the 300 mark.

Every movement of a batter is collected in the scorebook and carefully recorded in the statistics by a body of official scorers, and these figures include distant clouts, base-stealing, runs batted in and sacrifice hits, to provide alert managers with the necessary information when planning their strategy.

Although the batting average by itself, published periodically, is not by any means a complete gauge of a batter's utility to the team, it has been a popular

yardstick for measuring a particular batter's efficiency. To those who are unaccustomed to the vital statistics of the pastime, the batting average is simply the ratio of the number of safe hits as compared to the number of official times at bat, after discounting walks, sacrifices and interference by the catcher. In order that the factor of consistency may be included in reckoning a batter's efficiency, the Council of the Hongkong Softball Association have laid down certain minimum requirements which were published in this column last week.

### LEADING AVERAGES

In the "A" Division of the Senior League, the least a batter must appear at bat is 33 times, and with only a few remaining games outstanding, the following position shows the standing of the top ten who have batted 30 times or more:

| AB              | Hits | BA     |
|-----------------|------|--------|
| P. H. Lee       | 32   | 10.313 |
| Leonard D.      | 43   | 13.302 |
| Sequeira, R.    | 43   | 13.302 |
| C. Y. Lu        | 30   | 9.300  |
| Y. Y. Liang     | 37   | 11.297 |
| Hussain, J.     | 44   | 13.295 |
| Louie, H.       | 41   | 12.293 |
| Erikson, I.     | 32   | 9.281  |
| Remedios, A. A. | 34   | 9.265  |
| Seldon Ma       | 38   | 10.263 |

In previous years, the 300 plus batters almost filled a full page in the statistics published in the Souvenir Programme, but this members of that select circle has dwindled down to only four, with possibly further reduction as the season winds up.

The cause for the decline of batting marks has been attributed directly to the system of only allowing seeded teams to participate in the "A" Division where every pitch counts towards the ultimate championship. This has produced a series of close games and on this point alone the League must be considered a success.

## Combined Chinese Team Selected To Play Manila

At a meeting of the Hongkong Chinese Football Association held yesterday with Mr. C. S. Wang in the chair, the following were selected to represent Combined Chinese against Manila during the forthcoming interport to be played in Hongkong.

Leung Tung-tong (CAA), Hau Yung-tang (Sing Tao), Chan Ka-nai (S. China), Tang Sun (GMB), Chiu Chor-wing (S. China), Kwok Shik (Kit Chai), Ho Ying-tun, Chu Wing-keung (Sing Tao), Ai Chi-yin (Police), (Captain), Sze Man (S. China), Lee Tai-tai (KMB).

Reserves:—Tam Woon-cheuk (Eastern), Tam Chun-fai (KMB), Tai Kam-hung (Kit Chai), Chan Tai-hung (Eastern), Kwok Ying-ick (Eastern), Hau Ching-to (Sing Tao), Team Manager:—Mr. C. K. Woo.

If you allow your amah to do this



Youth Who Wasted Water Is Fined \$500

Remarking "Let that be a warning to those who waste water," Mr. Oswald Chung imposed a fine of \$500 or three months on a 19-year-old apprentice at Kowloon yesterday.

Don't be surprised if you see something like this

## COLONY BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS

## ONE OF TWO PHILIPPINES PLAYERS WINS THROUGH IN MEN'S OPEN SINGLES

By "ARGONAUT"

The only two foreign competitors in the Colony Badminton Open Championships, A. Torres, Jr. and M. S. Yanga of the Philippines, made their debut yesterday with a 50-50 success.

The Philippines 1949 and 1950 Singles Champion, Torres, overcame some stern second-set resistance by the University Junior player, Hooi Seng-tuck, to win by 15-5 and 17-15.

Yanga, who is essentially a Doubles player, fell victim to the former Colony triple champion, P. K. Hooi, in two sets, 12-16 and 6-16.

Torres showed vastly improved form on that of his visit to Hong Kong last year. Fast and agile, he displayed a wide repertoire of strokes, including a good back-hand flick, a powerful smash and delicate net shots. A little more accuracy in strokes should see him far in this tournament.

Against Hooi yesterday, he had matters much his own way in the first set, and was leading 8-4 in the second set. Cleverly slowing down the game with deep and high services and lobs, Hooi met with immediate success as Torres lapsed into errors.

Hooi took six points in a row and went on to lead 11-8, 12-9, 13-11 and 14-12, but a lack of power behind his smashes left him unable to secure the set. Torres forced the set to deuce and at 1-1 brought off two good shots to clinch the set and match.

### A CLOSE RUN

Yanga gave P. K. Hooi a close run in the first set which went to 16-15 before Hooi managed to win by 15-12. The second set saw both players breathing heavily, with Hooi showing more staying power.

Eighteen-year old Ko Wai-bong put up a creditable performance in the Singles against second-seeded W. F. Foo, though losing by 15-9 and 15-8.

Play was much closer than the scores would indicate, and Ko had his more favoured opponent well on the run during the greater part of the game.

In the forecourt young Ko was a good match for his opponent, but lack of power in his strokes put him at a decided disadvantage in the backcourt.

A little more depth in his long shots, and an improvement in his retrieving of smashes should make him one of the Colony's most promising future contenders for the Singles crown.

Another gallant loser of the evening was that bundle of energy, Remedios. In partnership with her sister, she went down to the Ladies' Doubles holders by 9-15 and 5-15. Despite their defeat, the Remedios sisters showed that they have gone a long way in their combination since last year, and were definitely superior to the winners in this department of the game.

Being both on the short side, lack of force in their strokes was their main weakness. More wrist action and less arm action in this respect ought to correct this weakness and make this combination a formidable pair in the next season or two.

Both the winners did not show too impressive a form, but their superior stroking and experience carried the day for them.

An exciting climax to the night's programme was reached in the Men's Doubles match when R. Tay and K. Y. Tam eliminated University's H. T. Heah and M. T. Yeow by 15-4 and 15-11.

The winners took the offensive from the initial service and never relaxed their grip until 16-4 was reached in the first set. In the second set, the winners took a 5-0 lead, but Heah and Yeow fought back bravely at this stage and took drive services by Heah enabled him and his partner to take an 11-9 lead in the second set.

Two change-overs of services followed and the score went to 10-11 before Tay served unbroke to complete the set and match.

### THE RESULTS

Results of the Colony Open Badminton Championships played at St Teresa's Hall last night were:

Men's Doubles:—R. Tay and W. N. Chung beat Yiu Wing-chen and M. H. Bahadun 15-4, 15-4.

Harringay Rangers Beat Canadians

London, Mar. 26. The Harringay Rangers, the English National Ice Hockey League team, beat Canada, the Olympic Champions, by seven goals to two tonight. The period scores were 1-0, 2-0 and 4-2. —Reuter.

## THE LITHGOW FLASH



Marjorie Jackson, the well known Australian athlete, snapped just after she had set up a new world record of 10.4 seconds in the New South Wales Women's 100 Yards title sprint at Sydney.

Previously Marjorie had held the World, Australian and New South Wales record of 10.7 seconds. She had bettered 10.7 seconds several times this season, but this is the first time her effort has been officially recognised.

She won by eight yards and is now among Australia's brightest hopes for the Olympic Games. —Express Photo.

## FOOTBALL LEAGUE SWAMPS IRISH LEAGUE 9-0

Belfast, Northern Ireland, Mar. 26. The Football League (England) swamped the Irish League in their match here today, beating them by nine goals to nil after leading 2-0 at half-time. The game was never a test for the English side and provided the Football League's biggest win in Belfast since 1902.

Never at any stage did the Irish side look like making a fight and the second period was almost farcical as the English team scored almost at will. They shot three goals in the first four minutes and four more before the end.

Nat Lofthouse (Bolton Wanderers) and Stan Pearson (Manchester United) each scored three goals. Tom Finney (Preston North End) two and Ivor Broadis (Manchester City) one.

A crowd of 20,000 watched the match, which was played at Windsor Park here. —Reuter.

### ENGLAND "B" WINS

Amsterdam, Mar. 26. A second half penalty goal gave the England "B" team a 1-0 win over a Dutch XI today. A crowd of more than 60,000 saw the match in the Olympic Stadium.

The winning goal came 23 minutes after the interval. With the Dutch goalkeeper out of position, Albert Mitchell, the Luton Town left-winger, put in a shot and the Dutch left-back handled. Mitchell himself scored from the spot kick.

The young English professional side dominated the midfield play with their accurate short passing, but they could not pierce the solid Dutch defence. —Reuter.

Sweden beat France by one goal to nil in their football international here this evening. The winning goal came in the second half. —Reuter.

SPURS DRAW. The Austrian Football Club at Vienna and Tottenham Hotspur, the English Football League Champions, drew 2-2 here this evening.

At half-time the English side led 1-0. —Reuter.

## HANDICAP MEETING ON APRIL 27

There will be six open handicap events at an athletic meeting to be held by the Hongkong Amateur Track and Field Association at Caroline Hill on April 27.

These will be the Girls' High Jump and 200 Metres and the Men's 200 and 1,500 Metres, Pole Vault and Javelin Throw.

The closing date for entries is April 10. Prizes will be awarded to the winners and there will be an entry fee of \$1 per event.

The Handicap Committee will comprise Capt. Norman Phillips, Mr. Raleigh Leung and Mr. Kwok Ling-kuang.

In addition to the handicap events there will be either an inter-club match or a number of invitational events.

## Tennis Postponed

Today's Colony Grasscourt Final match between Ip Koon-hung and K. C. Doo at the Hongkong Cricket Club has been postponed.

## TODAY'S SPORT

Miniature Football. Miniature Football on Club ground at Happy Valley in aid of Olympic Games Fund. Middle League Champions v. The Rest (4.30 p.m.): HEME v. Kit Chai (5.45 p.m.).

## Rugger Results

London, Mar. 26. The following were the results of rugger games played today: Aberlure 3, Crumlin 3.

Bristol 16, Clifton 8. —Reuter.

## THE GAMBOLS













## MESSAGERIES MARITIMES



Arriving Leaving Outward For  
 "LA MARSEILLAISE" Apr. 31 Apr. 1 Yokohama & Kobe  
 "MAPLE HILL" Apr. 9

Homeward For  
 "JEAN DUPUIS" Mar. 28 Mar. 29 Haiphong & Saigon  
 "VELIDJA" Apr. 4 Apr. 5 N. Africa & Europe  
 "LA MARSEILLAISE" Apr. 11 Apr. 12 Marseilles via Manila  
 "BEAUVAIS" May 1 May 2 N. Africa & Europe

Freight for Saigon, Alexandria, Tunis, Genoa, Marseilles, Algiers, Oran, Tangier, Casablanca, Havre, Dunkirk, Antwerp & Rotterdam.

Subject To Change Without Notice.

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES  
 P.O. Box 53, Hongkong  
 Queen's Building (gr. floor) Tel. 26651 (3 lines).

## m.v. "LA MARSEILLAISE"

10 days Roundtrip to JAPAN

Sailing from Hongkong — 1st April, 8 p.m.

to Yokohama and Kobe

Arriving from Japan — 11th April, 6 p.m.

## Roundtrip Fares

1st Class — HK\$910 to HK\$1,160

Tourist — HK\$600 to HK\$ 640

Excursions in Japan arranged on application.

## COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

Queen's Building.

Tel: 26651

# Ceilings On Car Production In US May Be Removed

Washington, Mar. 26.

The Government today authorised the motor car industry to turn out 1,950,000 cars during the third quarter this year and hinted that all car production ceilings may be removed.

The Defence Production Administrator, Mr Manley Fleischmann, said the shortage of critical materials eased enough to increase output of cars, refrigerators, television sets and other civilian goods during July, August and September.

At the same time, the Federal Reserve Board removed the 10 per cent down payment required for home repairs and improvements.

Under the change in the so-called "Regulation W," full payment still must be made within 36 months.

The Board did not believe that dropping of the payment requirement will have any significant effect on credit for home repairs.

Car production will be held to about 1,000,000 cars in April, May and June.

But during the next three months, the industry will be allocated enough materials for 1,050,000 units.

## MILITARY NEEDS

By stretching these supplies and dipping into inventories, it can turn out at least 1,150,000 cars, Mr Fleischmann said.

The possibility of permitting unlimited car production was being reserved.

The military programme in the third quarter will require no more and perhaps little less metal than it did in the second quarter of 1952.

His report came only five days after the Senate Preparedness Committee accused the nation's mobilisation officials of neglecting defence production to give civilians more goods.

United Press.

## BRIGHT OUTLOOK IN THE P.I.

Washington, Mar. 26.

Mr Walter Coombs, State Department Labour adviser, who has just returned from a six-month stay in the Philippines, today declared that enactment of new labour laws would help put the Philippines back on its feet.

He had recommended legislation providing for workmen's compensation, industrial safety, a conciliation service, and regulation of labour unions.

France-Press.

## Moscow Economic Conference

Moscow, Mar. 26.

The secretary-general of the welcome committee for the Moscow economic conference, Robert Chamberlain, told the Press today that at least 300 persons would represent Western countries at the coming conference.

Meanwhile the secretariat of the Chinese delegation will arrive here tomorrow. The Chinese delegation will bring more than two tons of samples of products which China is able to export.

M. Chamberlain, who is French, also declared "We are certain of the success of the conference." He claimed that it would be non-political.

France-Press.

## FROM INDONESIA

Djakarta, Mar. 26.

A delegation of private businessmen led by the Chairman of the Indonesian Economic Council, Soeharto Tadjakulman, left today for Moscow to attend the world economic conference, due to open there on April 3.

Left-wing labour organisations will also send representatives. The Government has refused to subsidise a parliamentary delegation because it was considered that the Moscow conference was a private undertaking.

Reuter.

## PERON DELEGATION

Buenos Aires, Mar. 26.

An Argentine delegation left by air today to attend the Moscow economic conference. It is headed by Felipe Freyre, who was appointed by Peron, industrial and agricultural groups.

Associated Press.

# BRITAIN'S CAR INDUSTRY RECEIVES TWO SEVERE BLOWS

London, Mar. 17.

In just one week, the British motor industry has been dealt two crippling blows. The first was delivered by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Butler, when he raised the fuel tax another 7½d in his Budget.

Then, from Australia, came the crisis decision to slash imports which means, more than anything else from Britain's point of view, a grave check to the rich flow of her motor products there.

Cumulative effect of these two measures is expected to be little short of disastrous to the industry. At best, manufacturers hope to be able to step up exports to other overseas markets — but prospects are not good. At worst, production will have to be cut and diverted where possible to defence work, causing a loss of overseas earnings and further endangering the country's economy.

The industry's reaction to the rise in fuel tax is one of dismay. It has long been fighting against rising production costs and now finds itself confronted with still greater burdens.

Manufacturers are complaining that the fuel tax is essentially a tax on the great transport system on which industry depends, and that the latest increase in duty will again rebound harshly on the motor industry in particular.

Prices will rise and every price increase, they say, weighs the scales against manufacturers in their struggle to sustain exports. Export prices must be kept within reason and the industry felt it had almost reached its limit even before Mr Butler announced his Budget.

To cap it, Australia, whose balance of payments has plummeted disastrously in the last six months, announced drastic import controls which it estimated will chop British motor vehicle imports from a record 143,000, worth £25 million in 1951, to between 30,000 and 40,000 this year. And Australia has been by far Britain's best customer.

## COMPLICATED SYSTEM

The full extent of the Australia move has yet to be felt in England. Motor producers have heard only that imports of assembled chassis and car bodies will be cut by 80 per cent and those of assembled cars by 40 per cent.

Import restriction will be based on a complicated system of Australian Customs tariffs. It may be that for some types of car parts, the regulations will leave a fair market for the Commonwealth's own motor industry which will not be impaired. For there is some hope that Australian assembly factories will fight strongly for an easing of the restrictions because, without British chassis, they will be hit badly.

Whatever happens, though, any firm which makes an all-Australian car will score handsomely as the market will be virtually wide open to it.

Reassurances from the Australian Government that the measures being taken will last only till the balance of payments position improves are small consolation to British motor manufacturers. Australia's own crisis is sufficiently big to make optimism in Britain's motor industry little better than wishful thinking. The fact remains that Australia faces a £600 million trade deficit for 1951-52 and her financial policy must necessarily be severe.

Faced thus, British car makers are groping for a solution.

## EXTRA OUTPUT

Assuming other overseas markets remain open, this year there have been signs of drying up in some of the industry will find itself geared to produce about 70,000 extra vehicles for which there are no buyers, except in the United Kingdom.

However, till she recovers her financial strength Britain cannot afford to divert the surplus to the home market though this has been starved for years. The sale of cars within the country after spending dollars for steel and other raw materials used in this production, would only add to the United Kingdom's economic predicament.

Two ways are left open to manufacturers. They must either create new markets overseas and expand existing markets. Or they must cut down production. And it is doubtful whether the factories thus affected could be absorbed into the defence programme which has already slowed down under economic pressure.

If Britain is to expand the overseas demand for cars, the drive is likely to be directed at Canada and the United States. Demand in other markets is not increasing.

New Zealand, last year, took 53,000 cars and almost 10,000 commercial vehicles, worth a total of £20 million, but is not expected to reach that figure in 1952. South Africa, which paid Britain £16½ million for 24,000 cars and 5,000 other vehicles, promises to remain a good selling area—but there is not much room for expansion.

The Canadian market, however, is reported to be brightening again after a recession six months ago. Imports slumped following an order that nine purchase agreements should be limited to 12 months. These agreements have now been extended to 18 months and as a result sales are increasing.

Exports to Canada in 1951 totalled 27,000 cars and 3,000 commercial vehicles which earned £14,153,300.

In the United States, the figures were low—19,800 cars and 728 other vehicles netted only £8,555,941.

While looking to these two countries for increased sales, British manufacturers are confronted with another problem which is a direct result of high fuel costs.

The more petrol costs, the more urgent becomes the need to economise in its consumption. Design, therefore, of the high-powered type of engine, and the use of lighter alloys, which is hampered because the industry must consider the day when the products of the home market can be more substantially met.

All in all, most car men feel 1952 will be a hard year.

London Express Service.

## Oil Company To Stop Prospecting

Cairo, Mar. 26.

The American Petroleum Company has decided to stop prospecting in Egypt and to dismiss 200 workers engaged in drilling.

This follows Egyptian delay in amending the 1948 mining law, which imposed conditions on oil prospecting which the company regarded as unworkable.

The company is also believed to object to the 1947 company law providing that 51 per cent of the share capital must be held by Egyptians.

The Anglo-Egyptian crisis and dissolution of the Egyptian Parliament have delayed the amendments to these laws.

The company's decision does not affect the production of oil from the wells already working.

Reuter.

## The Rubber Markets

London, Mar. 26.

The rubber futures market was dull today. Prices closed as follows:—

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